We see what pains God has taken to induce us to become acquainted with and put confidence in his works: If you look at them, you can know them as you know the faces of your friends, by their features and expression. Put them to the test, and . they come out as certain steady principles., steadfast as the most faithful of friends.

This order is, no doubt, intended primarily and mainly for practical purposes. Hence it is an order which strikes the senses, and which can be easily observed and remembered. It is also the means by which science is enabled to construct its systems. It is not needful in furthering these ends, that the order should be so very precise as a " minute philosopher" (to use a phrase of Berkeley's) would make it. As in modern gardening order is not less attended to, while it is far less visible than it was when every line was straight, every parterre squared, and every tree cut into shape, so in the works of God, the order is not the less beautiful and bountiful because it is not precise. Scientific inquirers do, indeed, complain that there is a difficulty in finding a classification at once simple, correct, and complete, of the objects in the mineral, vegetable, and animal kingdoms. Still, there are numerous facilities furnished for such a classification, in the obvious order which prevails in nature i and any difficulties that may present themselves to the rigid logician, arise mainly, we are convinced, from the circumstance that nature hath constructed her forms chiefly for practical ends; and she will not, in order to suit our modes of reasoning, keep rigidly to a rule, when an anomaly might be more useful to the common observer, or tend more effectually to promote the functions of the animal or plant. We can easily understand how, with an order sufficient for all practical purposes, there should yet be a call to depart from it, to a greater or less extent, to

suit the climate and situation, and to promote the comfort of the living being. So far as the objects contemplated in natural philosophy are concerned, there needs no such divergence ; and this may be the reason why, when natural history has always somewhat of looseness in its laws, those of such sciences as chemistry and physics are scientifically and. mathematically correct. #

We can now understand how, in the minds of certain mystic philosophers, a mysterious importance should have been attached